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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

MASATOSHI TOHATA, ET AL. : ATTN: BOX SEQUENCE

SERIAL NO: 10/578,613 :

FILED: MAY 8, 2006 :

FOR: RECOMBINANT :

MICROORGANISM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Communication of January 11, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.